



CE Tech Times

"Insider Tips to Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier and More Profitably"

What's New

Happy 2017!! Wishing you a Happy New Year, joy and prosperity throughout 2017! For our clients, thank you for being a valued client! We are grateful to have clients like you!

Congratulations to Brett Brumm! Brett just celebrated his 5 year anniversary with CE-Technologies. He has grown to be one of our lead engineers and is now managing our service desk operations. He is a valuable member of our CE-Tech family. Thank you Brett! We wish you many more years to come!



CE-Tech is always looking for new talent as we grow. We are seeking customer focused individuals with strong technical backgrounds who love technology. If interested send resume to info@cetechno.com.



3 "Must-Do" IT Resolutions

"Never before in the history of humankind have people across the world been subjected to extortion on a massive scale as they are today." That's what *The Evolution of Ransomware*, a study by Mountain View, California-based cybersecurity firm Symantec, reported recently.

If you have any illusions that your company is safe from cyber-attack in 2017, consider just a few findings stated in a recent report by the Herjavec Group, a global information security firm:

- Every second, 12 people online become a victim of cybercrime, totalling more than 1 million victims around the world every day.
- Nearly half of all cyber-attacks globally last year were committed against small businesses.
- Ransomware attacks rose more than an astonishing 300% in 2016.

- The world's cyber-attack surface will grow an order of magnitude larger between now and 2021.
- The US has declared a national emergency to deal with cyberthreats.
- There is no effective law enforcement for financial cybercrime today.

Clearly, in 2017, your company's information and financial well-being are at greater risk than ever before. And you cannot count on the federal or state government or local police to protect your interests. That's why WE STRONGLY SUGGEST that you implement the following resolutions starting TODAY.

Resolution #1: Tune up your backup and recovery system. The #1 antidote to a ransomware attack is an up-to-date backup copy of all your data and software. Yet managing backups takes more than just storing a daily copy of your data. For one thing, if your business

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is at all typical, the amount of data you store grows by 35% or more PER YEAR. If your data management budget doesn't expand likewise, expect trouble.

Resolution #2: Harness the power of the cloud – but watch your back.

Huge productivity gains and reduced costs can be achieved by making full use of the cloud. Yet it's a double-edged sword. Any oversight in security practices can lead to a breach. Here are two things you can do to harness the cloud safely:

- *Determine which data matters.* Some data sets are more crucial to your business than others. Prioritize what must be protected. Trying to protect everything can take focus and resources away from protecting data such as bank account information, customer data and information that must be handled with compliance and regulatory requirements in mind.
- *Select cloud providers carefully.* Cloud vendors know that data

security is vital to your business and promote that fact. Yet not all cloud vendors are the same. You can't control what happens to your data once it's in the cloud, but you can control who's managing it for you.

Resolution #3: Set and enforce a strict Mobile Device Policy.

As BYOD becomes the norm, mobile devices open gaping holes in your network's defenses. Don't miss any of these

three crucial steps:

- *Require that users agree with acceptable-use terms before connecting to your network.* Be sure to include terms like required use of hard-to-crack passwords, conditions under which company data may be "wiped" and auto-locking after periods of inactivity.
- *Install a Mobile Device Management System on all connected devices.* A good system creates a virtual wall between personal and company data. It lets you impose security

measures, and it protects user privacy by limiting company access to work data only.

- *Establish a strong protocol for when a connected device is lost or stolen.* Make sure features that allow device owners to locate, lock or wipe (destroy) all data on the phone are preset in advance. That way, the user can be instructed to follow your protocol when their phone is lost or stolen.

Free Network And Security Audit Resolves Your Biggest Data Security Problems and Makes Your Systems Run Like A Fancy Swiss Watch

Ever asked yourself why some business owners and CEOs seem so blithely unconcerned about data protection? Don't let their ignorance lull you into a false sense of security. If you've read this far, you are smart enough to be concerned. **Call us right now at 585-729-8324 and we'll send one of our top network security experts over for a FREE Network and Security Audit.** It's your best first step to a safe and prosperous 2017.

“Not all cloud vendors are the same.”

Free Report Download: What Every Small Business Owner Must Know About Protecting And Preserving Their Company's Critical Data And Computer Systems



You Will Learn:

- 1) The only way to know for SURE your data can be recovered if lost, corrupted or deleted—yet fewer than 10% of businesses have this in place.
- 2) 7 critical characteristics you should absolutely demand from any off-site backup service.
- 3) Where many backups fail and give you a false sense of security.
- 4) The #1 cause of data loss that businesses don't even think about until their data is erased.

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Security Tips for the New Year

Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



New Nintendo Classic Rules Them All!

For anyone in their late 20s to early 40s, chances are nothing shaped your life more than Nintendo. If it was your first “gadget,” it may even have been love at first sight.

And now, for Nintendo lovers, the Nintendo Entertainment System is back and better than ever with the NES Classic Edition. It's tiny, but designed to look just like the original NES. Setup is a snap. Just plug it into your TV's USB port. Hit the power button and you're greeted with a screen where you can browse games and options. You can even select a CRT filter that replicates the lines and look of an old TV.

The color is sharp, the timing dead on and each pixel is a perfect square so you see the games exactly as designed. At 60 bucks, it's a great gift for your favorite millennial (maybe even YOU!).

IT Security Tip #1: Use STRONG passwords!

Thanks to powerful brute-force-attack software readily available online, hackers can try tens of millions of possible password combinations per second. For example, hacking software can guess a five-character password in under three hours. If you only use lowercase letters, it's 11.9 seconds.

You KNOW you need to have a better password than “password” or “letmein” if you have any hope of keeping hackers out of your PC; but what does a “strong” password mean? A good password should be at least eight characters long (or longer!) and have a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols that are hard to guess. Don't use dictionary words with proper capitalization because they're easy to guess (like Password123#). Even though it meets the requirements we just discussed, it's easily hacked; remember, hackers have sophisticated password-hacking software that will run 24/7/365. If you want a quick tip for remembering your password, use a phrase and insert letters and numbers into it, like \$h@KeNb8ke.

IT Security Tip #2: How to foil ransomware

Not too long ago, the CryptoLocker ransomware virus was all over the news, infecting over 250,000 computers in its first 100 days of release (at least that's the number reported – the real numbers are probably MUCH higher). The threat was fairly straightforward: Pay us or we'll delete all your data.

Ransomware, like the CryptoLocker attack, works by encrypting your files to prevent you from using or accessing them. After your files are compromised, the hackers behind the attack then pop up a demand screen asking for payment (\$400 to \$2,000) within a set time frame (e.g., 72 hours or three days) in order to get the key to decrypt your files. The last CryptoLocker virus forced many business owners to lose data or pay up since there was no other way to decrypt the files.

Obviously the best way to foil a ransomware attack is to be incredibly diligent about IT security; but with hundreds of thousands of new attacks being created daily, there are no guarantees that you won't get infected. Therefore, it's critical to maintain a full, daily backup of your data OFF-SITE so that IF you do get whacked with ransomware, you can recover all your files without having to pay a thin dime; and don't forget to back up off-site PCs, laptops, remote offices and third-party software data stored in cloud apps as well!

IT Security Tip #3: This will SHOCK you about bank fraud on business accounts

Did you know your COMPANY'S bank account doesn't enjoy the same protections as a personal bank account? For example, if a hacker takes money from your business account, the bank is NOT responsible for getting your money back. (Don't believe me? Go ask your bank what their policy is on refunding you money stolen from your account!)

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Many people think FDIC protects you from fraud; it doesn't. It protects you from bank insolvency, NOT fraud.

Quick Tip: Set up e-mail alerts on your account so you are notified any time money is withdrawn from your account. The FASTER you catch fraudulent activity, the better your chances are of keeping your money. If you contact the bank IMMEDIATELY, you have a very high probability of foiling a hacker's attack.

IT Security Tip #4: Bookmark the LEGITIMATE web sites you frequently visit

Here's a sneaky trick used by many hackers: they purchase and set up a fraudulent web site that is a close misspelling of a legitimate one. Example: www.faceboook.com instead of www.facebook.com. All you have to do is accidentally fat-finger ONE letter in the URL and up pops a very legitimate-looking fake

copy of the site you were trying to get to – and the login and links are full of key-logger malware and virus landmines waiting for you to click on them. This is particularly important for any social networks you belong to.

If you work at a standing desk, you'll love this.

Ergonomic experts agree that "your best position is your next position." In other words, your body is meant to move. And constant motion reduces fatigue as well as back and joint pain. Enter the Wurf Board, an inflatable platform for working at a standing desk. As you stand on it, your body constantly adjusts, keeping you in a subtle state of constant motion. Benefits include greater energy, focus and calorie burn. While anti-fatigue mats make standing comfortable for an hour or so, the Wurf Board lets you stand easily for hours at a time. Priced at \$199-\$269 and available in three sizes, it lets you work out

while you work.

-TheBalance.com

Here's an easy way to start 2017 with a clean e-mail in-box.

Ever wonder how in the world you ended up on so many e-mail lists? They just pile up until you can't even keep up with unsubscribing from the new ones. Unroll.me lets you manage your subscriptions by unsubscribing and bundling the ones you want to keep into a single daily "rollup." It makes unsubscribing easy and painless. It simply lists all your subscriptions for you. You just click an X next to the ones you want to unsubscribe from and Unroll.me takes care of the rest. It's a great way to organize your in-box while keeping all the subscriptions you love.

-Lifewire.com

Who Else Wants To Win A \$25 Gift Card?

The Grand Prize Winners of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz were Suzanne Clark from Temple B'rith Kodesh and Laurie Koelle from Klafehn, Heise & Johnson PLLC. They were the first two people to correctly answer our quiz question from last month: **To view objects at the surface of water from a submarine under water, the instrument used is:**

a) kaleidoscope b) periscope c) spectroscope d) telescope

The correct answer was **b) periscope**. Now, here's this month's trivia question. The first two winners will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card. (One winner per company per quarter.)

The very first Apple logo featured what famous person sitting under a tree, with an apple about to hit his head?

a) Sir Isaac Newton b) Wayne Newton c) Elvis Presley d) Mark Zuckerberg

Email us at jstanton@cetechno.com or call at 585-729-8324 with your answer!